VELLARAPILLI—ATTACHMENT OF CROPS FOR REVENUE NOT FALLEN DUE

392. Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that paddy crops standing on a large number of fields in Vellarapilli, particularly K. 4. Vadakkumbhagam village, have been attached in the month of Dhanu for land revenue payable in the coming months of Makaram, Kumbham and Meenam;

(*b*) whether they are aware that this procedure causes considerable harassment to the tenants ;

(*c*) whether they are also aware of the fact that this procedure amounts to forcing tenants to pay their dues to jenmies long before they fall due in terms of the contract between them ;

(*d*) what are the reasons for this novel procedure being adopted ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar):*

(*a*) The crops were attached for arrears of land revenue which were due in the months of Thulam and Vrischigam. The arrears from Thulam onwards were due from the pattadars. No crop was attached for the collection of arrears of revenue due in Makaram or Kumbham.

(*b*) Special care was taken to see that the tenants were not harassed on any account. Most of the tenants were only too glad to pay up the land revenue due on their portion of the land.

(*c*) The question of contract between the jenmi and the tenant does not at all come up here. All that was done was to collect the land revenue due on land.

(*d*) Attachment of crops or other movables on lands belonging to a registered pattadar for land revenue arrears due from him is not a novel practice.

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* Is any land revenue due in Thulam or Vrischigam on lands registered as Mundakan in the Settlement register ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar):* The land revenue is due from the registered *pattadar* and not necessarily from these lands. When the crops are attached, the tenants have to pay and

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they usually pay. Usually we discourage the practice of attaching crops. Previously the practice prevailed to a large extent, but in recent years the practice has been definitely discouraged. We proceed against the land itself. In this particular area, there was a complaint that because of the legislation postponing the payment of *pattam* till the end of the year, they, the *jenmies*, found it difficult to pay the tax. There was also a proposal for granting fixity of tenure to these *verumpattamdars*. If I sell the lands the *verumpattam* rights are also sold. It is as much in the interests of the tenants that I did not proceed against the lands. As a matter of fact no sale was effected and tax was realised and they paid it.

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* But they had to sell the paddy at a heavy loss, as the attachment was before the crop was harvested.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar):* All that I can say is that they paid it. The moment the crop was attached they paid it. If I had sold the lands they would not have retained the lands.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* May I know whether the *jenmi* had this plot of land alone?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar):* As a matter of fact several plots were attached. We are at liberty to do it.

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* Will the Government be pleased to inform the tenants that they should pay the tax on lands in their possession. In the registered document they are bound to pay the revenue in Makaram and just at the time when the crop is to be harvested it is attached and therefore they have to sell the paddy at a loss. If they harvest at the proper time they can get a higher rate for their paddy.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar):* I recommended this concession to the Government and it was accepted and it has already been gazetted before. I shall gazette it once more for the information of the tenants. The tenant can then free his lands by actually giving the tax on the survey number in his possession.

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* Merely gazetting will not do. A special notice may be put up in all the village offices and all the tenants may be informed.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar):* My recollection is I tried to post it in the Registry Office also. I shall do it again.

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